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REMARKS

The Office Action and the cited and applied references have been carefully reviewed. Claims 24, 31-33, 37-51 and 58-60 are allowed (Claims 38 and 39 were however noted to be objected to and this issue is now moot in view of the amendments to claims 38 and 39). Claims 23, 24, 27-33, 35-51, and 53-60 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

The disclosure has been objected to because of informalities. Appropriate correction is now made to the specification, thereby obviating this objection.

Claims 23, 27-30, 35, 36, 38, 39 and 53-57 have been objected to by the examiner either because of informalities or under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. These objections are now moot in view of the amendments to the claims.

Rejected claims 6, 8-21, 25, 26, 34, 52, 61-65 and 68-86 are now cancelled without prejudice, such as to refiling in a continuation application. Accordingly, the cancellation of all the rejected claims obviates all the outstanding rejections.

In view of the above, the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. \$112 and define patentable subject matter warranting their Appln. No. 10/038,612 Amd. dated October 20, 2003 Reply to Office Action of April 18, 2003

allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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